

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A rubber crawler running device which includes a drive wheel connected to a drive shaft of a vehicle body, an idler wheel, and a rubber crawler having rubber projections formed on an inner peripheral surface thereof at predetermined intervals, lower end portions of the drive wheel and the idler wheel being disposed near a running surface, the rubber crawler being wound around the drive wheel and the idler wheel and contacting the running surface, wherein the drive wheel is formed so that engaging teeth thereof which engage with the rubber projections are exposed at right and left sides, and further comprising a circuitous guide skirt body having an upper portion and a lower portion, ~~fixed to the vehicle body, the guide skirt body is~~ being disposed at an outer side of the drive wheel and the rubber projections, where the rubber projections engage with the engaging teeth of the drive wheel with a predefined clearance with respect to the drive wheel in a widthwise direction of the drive wheel, and the guide skirt body upper portion ~~comprises an annular body and is~~ provided closer to an upper part of the drive wheel and the rubber projections than a the lower part portion thereof, wherein the upper portion of the guide skirt body parallels the circular shape of the drive wheel, for about 90 degrees of the drive wheel, from an upper to a lateral portion of the drive wheel with respect to the drive wheel's engagement with the rubber projections, such that the rubber crawler is substantially prevented from moving in a lateral direction, and wherein the lower portion of the guide skirt body flares outward from the drive wheel and the upper portion of the guide skirt body.
2. (Original) The rubber crawler running device of claim 1, wherein the drive wheel includes a central portion, and engaging teeth, which engaging teeth are formed

radially from the central portion and engage with surfaces of the rubber projections in a longitudinal direction of the rubber crawler.

3. (Original) The rubber crawler running device of claim 1, wherein the rubber projections are formed on a protruding streak continuously formed on the inner peripheral surface of the rubber crawler.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) The rubber crawler running device of claim 1, wherein the total width of a gap between the rubber projections and the guide skirt bodies at the right and left sides is equal to or less than the width of the rubber projection in a transverse direction thereof.